

# Smart Grid The Texas Experience



CenterPoint Energy

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Director of Electric Technology

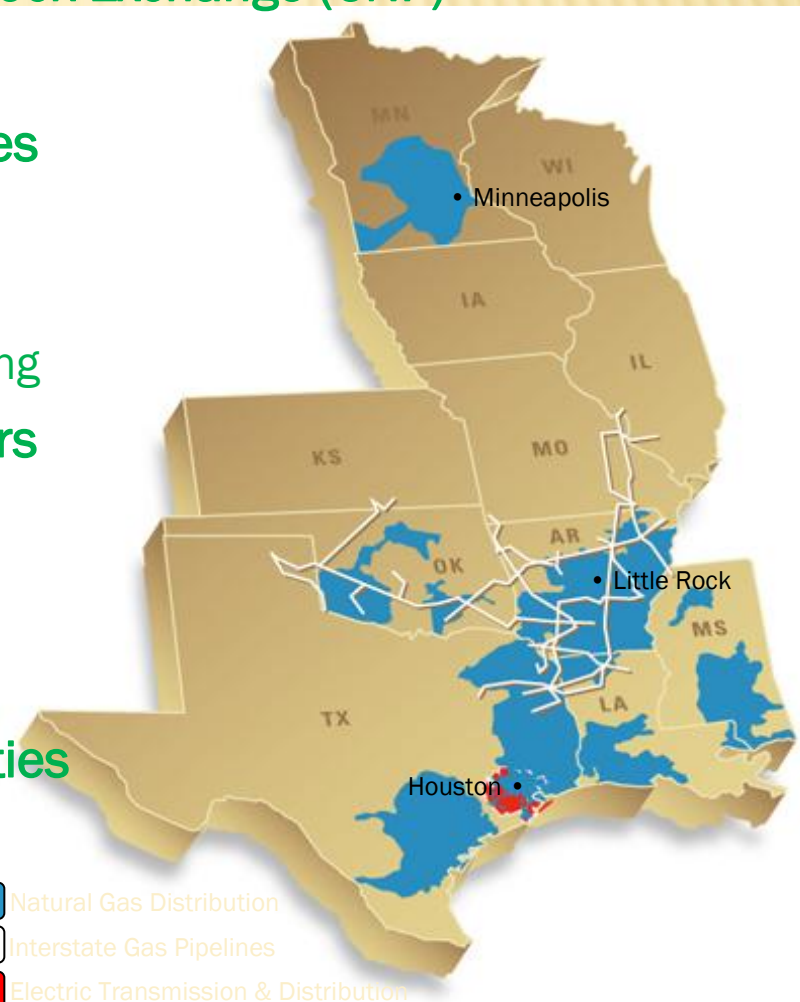




# WHO IS CENTERPOINT ENERGY?



- Public company traded on the New York Stock Exchange (CNP)
- Headquartered in Houston, TX
- Operating 6 business segments in six states
  - ❑ Electric transmission and distribution
  - ❑ Natural gas distribution
  - ❑ Interstate pipelines and natural gas gathering
- Serving 5.4 million electric & gas customers
- \$22 billion in assets
- \$8.5 billion in revenue
- Approximately 9,000 employees
- Over 130 years of service to our communities



*“To be recognized as America’s Leading Energy Delivery Company... and more”*



# WHO IS CENTERPOINT ENERGY – ELECTRIC?

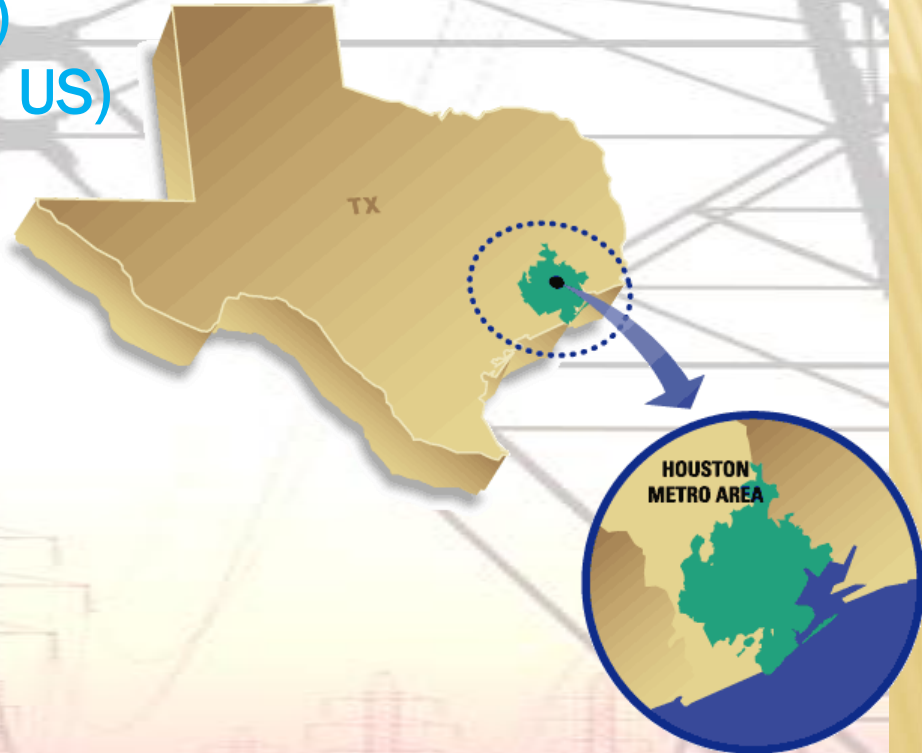


Houston Electric Division (CEHE)

Houston (4th largest city in the US)

Houston Metro Area (6th largest in US)

- 5,000 square mile service area
- Greater than 2.2 million electric meters
- Houston Electric
  - Delivers 17.3 peak and 77 Gigawatt hours annually for about 115 certified Retail Electric Providers
  - Transmission and Distribution System
    - ◆ 3,742 miles of transmission lines
    - ◆ 48,733 miles of distribution lines
    - ◆ 233 substations



## Electric Challenge:

Effectively monitor and control millions of meters, line devices and miles of delivery wire which, if laid end to end, almost circle the earth twice around the equator

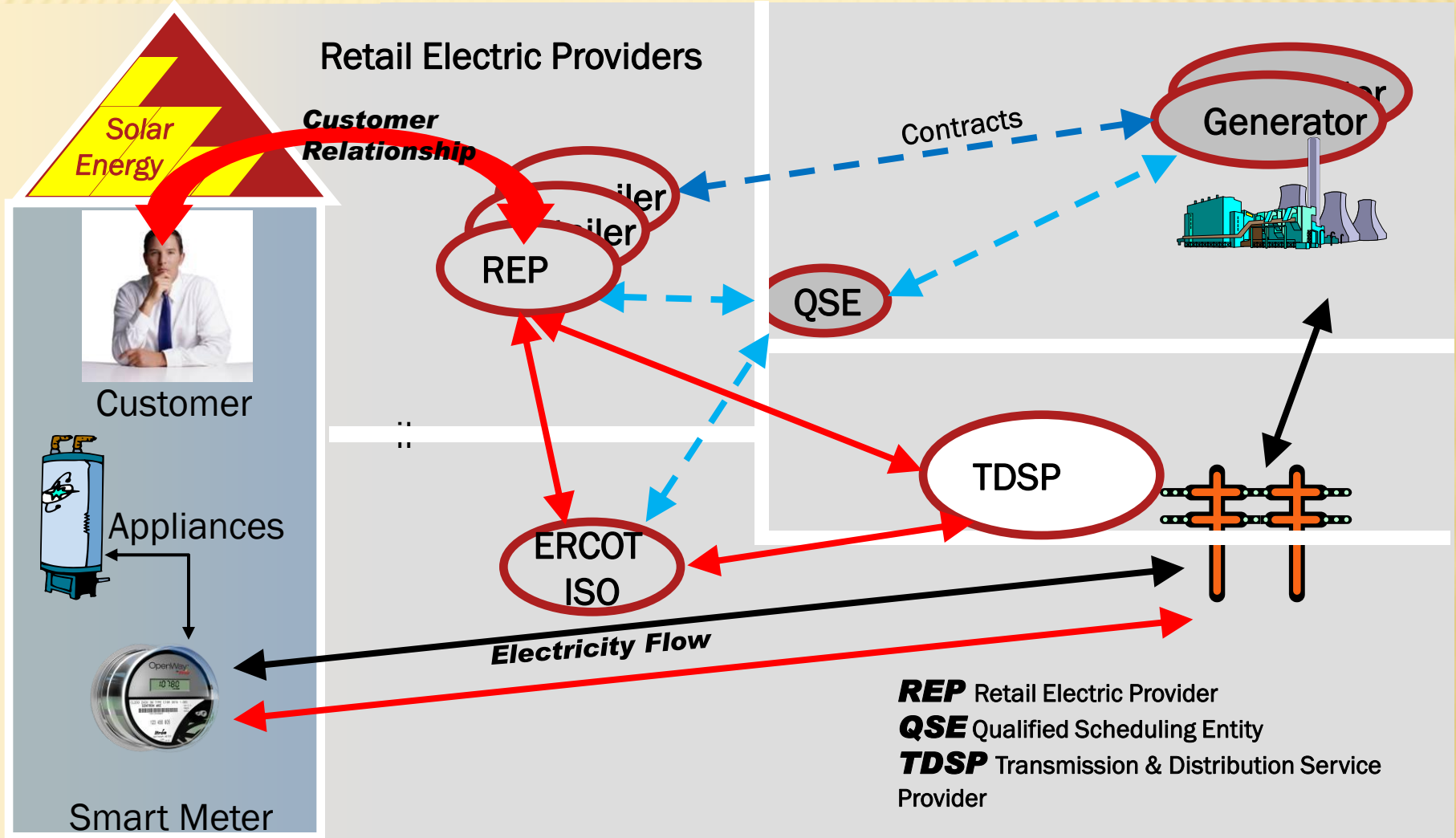




**SEE ELECTRICITY IN A WHOLE  
NEW LIGHT**



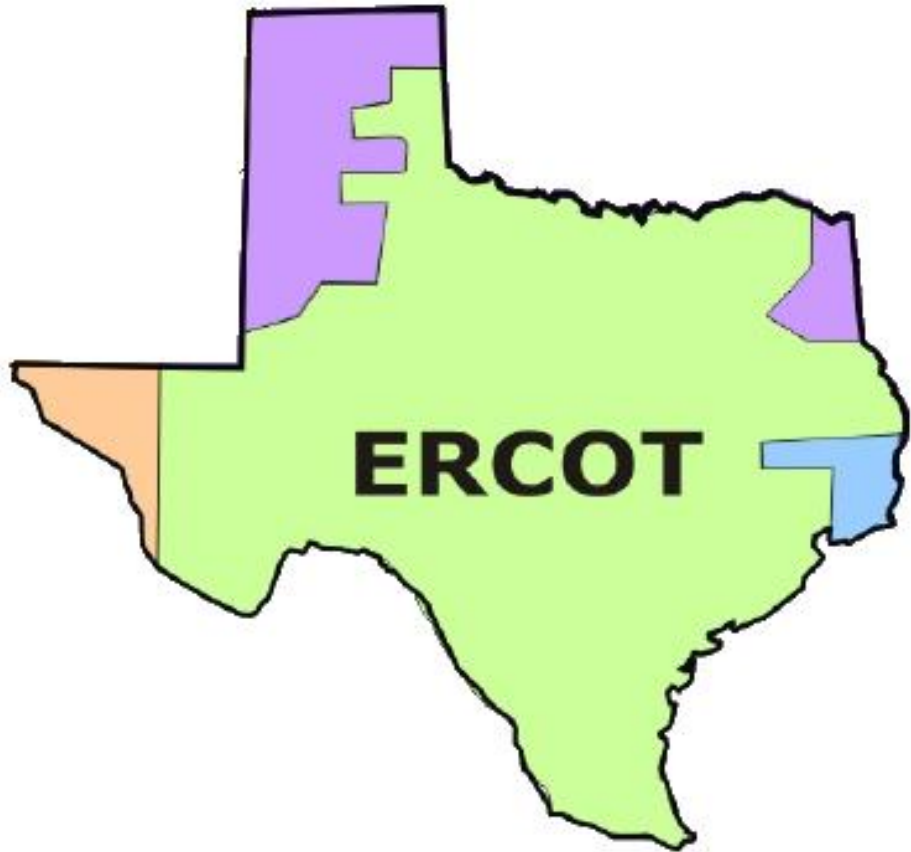
# THE TEXAS ELECTRIC MARKET DEREGULATED SINCE JANUARY 2002





# Texas Electric Market is ERCOT

(Electric Reliability Council of Texas)



## 115 Retail Electric Providers



## Transmission and Distribution Utilities



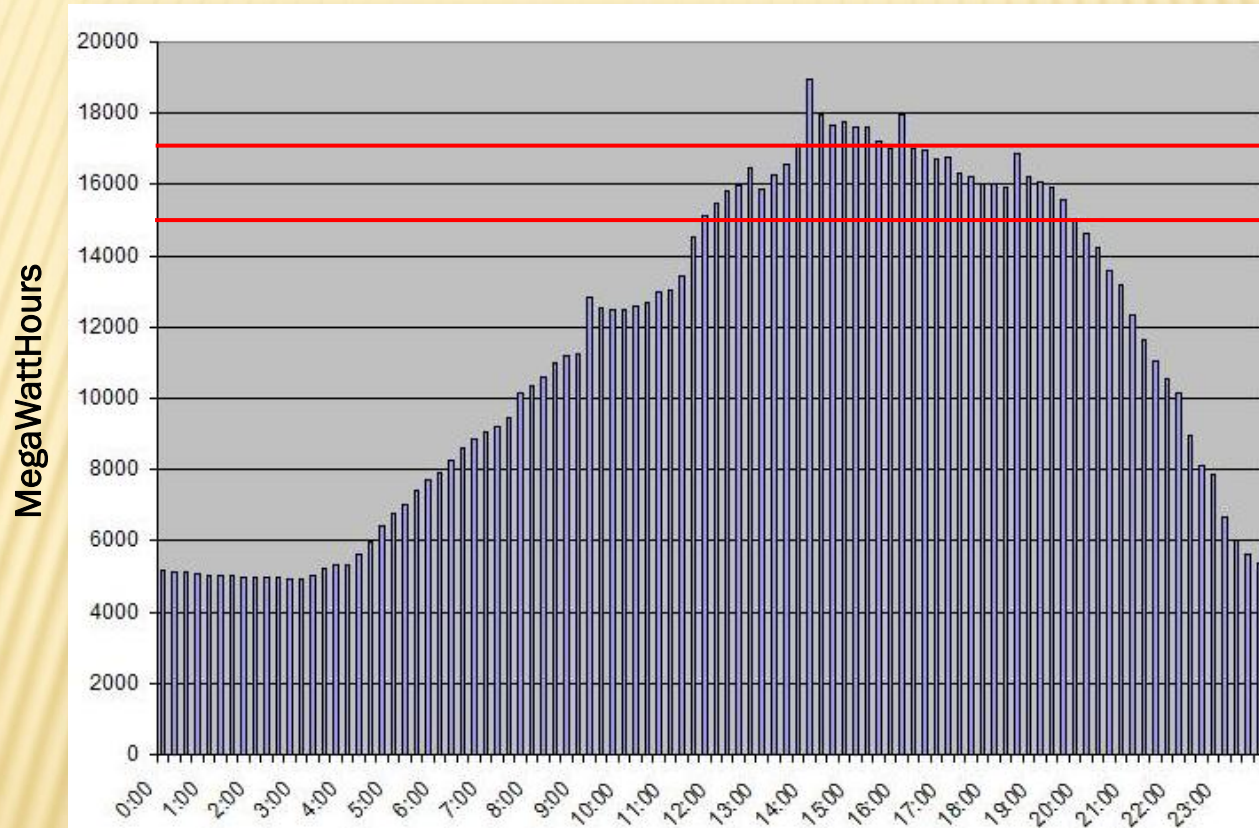
## Generation Companies





# TYPICAL LOADSHAPE IN NATIONAL ENERGY MARKET

Eliminating demand peaks through Demand Response



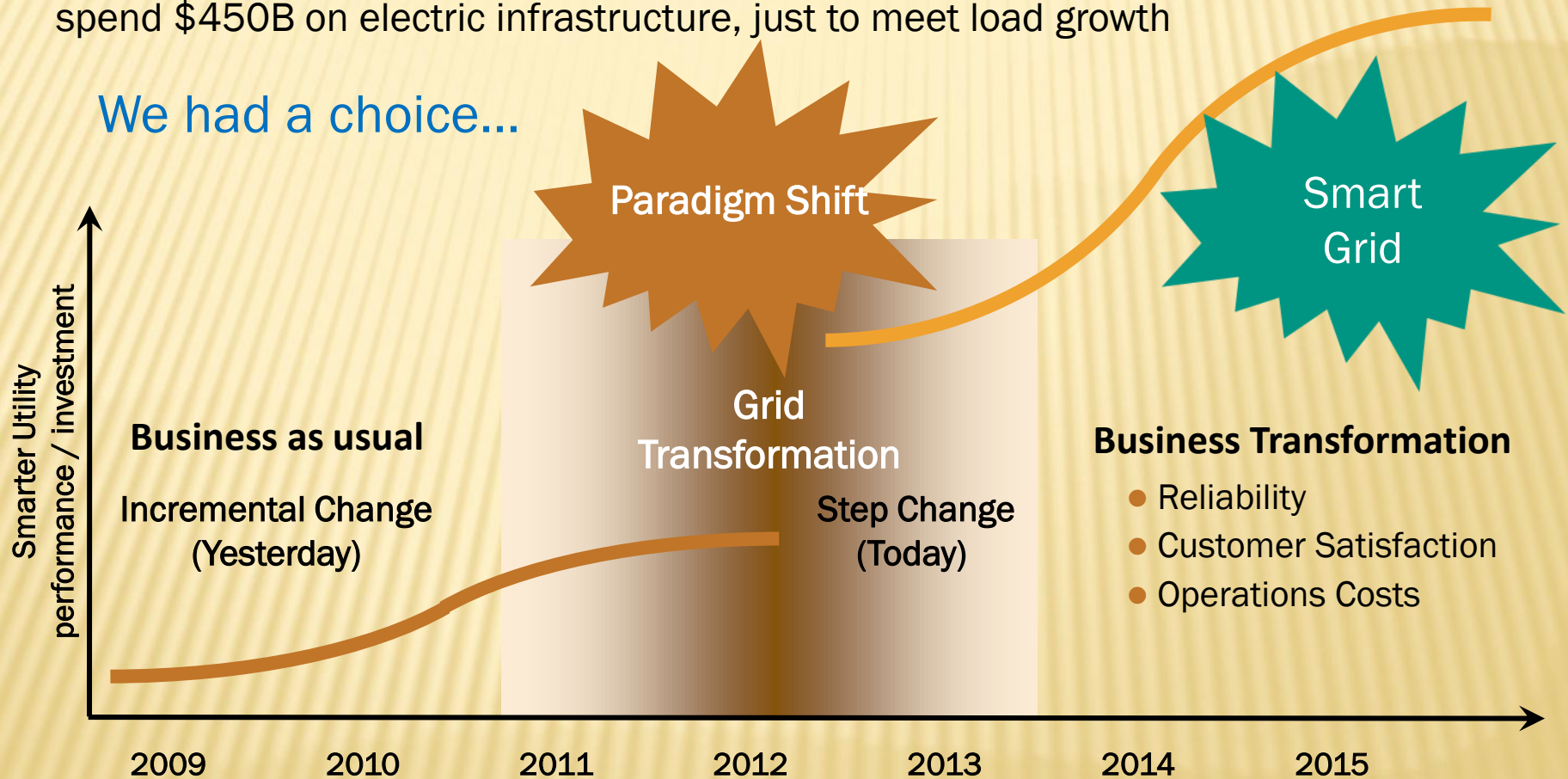
Day Time; quarter hourly readings



# BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION OPPORTUNITY UTILITIES AT A CROSSROADS ...

According to the DOE Grid 2030 report, in the next 20 years, the U.S. will spend \$450B on electric infrastructure, just to meet load growth

We had a choice...





## HB 2129 (79<sup>th</sup> R)

“In recognition that ...new metering and meter information technologies, have the potential to increase the reliability of the regional electrical network, encourage dynamic pricing and demand response, make better use of transmission and generation assets, and provide more choices for consumers, the legislature encourages the adoption of these technologies by electric utilities in this state.”

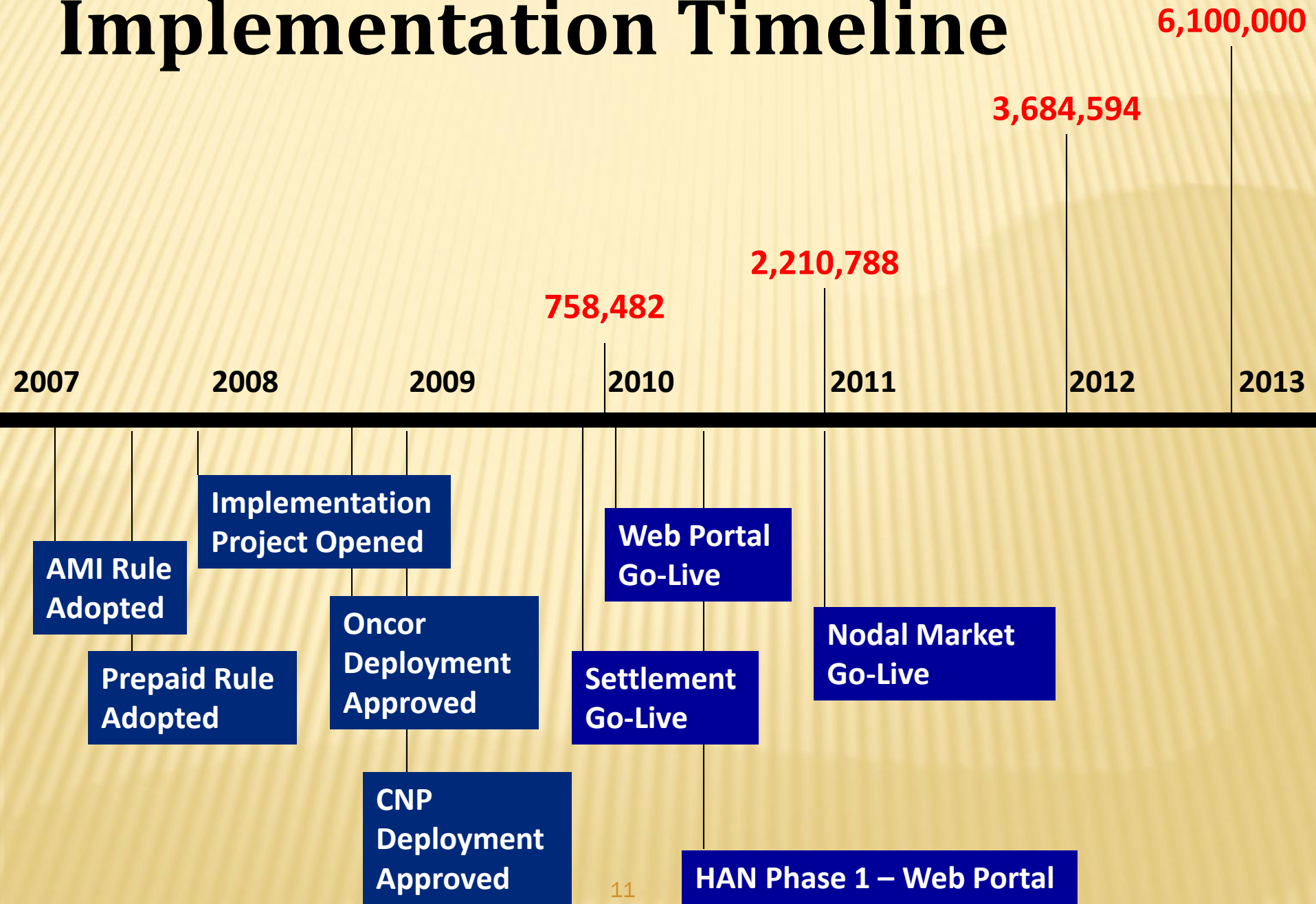


## Passage of HB 3693 (80<sup>th</sup> R)

- Expressed the intent of the legislature that net metering and “advanced meter data networks be deployed as rapidly as possible.”



# Implementation Timeline





## 1. Advance Metering Systems (AMS)

- AMS will provide
  1. Detailed information on usage,
  2. Significantly faster and less intrusive service for reads,
  3. Faster remote turn on/off,
  4. Meter checks for functionality working, removal, tilt
  5. Two-way communication between customers and market participants (i.e., REP, QSE, Aggregators, Authorized 3rd Parties, and TDSPs)
  6. Back office systems to analyze, retry for missing, estimate accurately, prepare for the market
  7. Everyman's portal to access the data

Cost: 2.2 Million Advanced Meter System (AMS) meters to be installed during 2010 - 2012 at a cost of \$580 million



# METER FUNCTIONALITY AND INSTALLATION

## 1. Meter Functionality

1. Detailed variable interval usage data (TX selected 15 min)
2. Remote off / on for 200 amp
3. On board usage storage of up to 60 days
4. Power out remote notification (last gasp)
5. ZigBee enabled for Home Area Network (HAN) devices
6. Mesh communication between meters

## 2. Installation Opportunity

1. Knock and inform customer before pulling meter
2. Visit all meters by trained crew, not just readers
3. Check for safety issues (weather head loose, vegetation, etc)
4. Check for obvious signs of diversion
5. Take a picture of existing and any unusual conditions
6. Take an lat/long fix on the meter location
7. Leave a door hanger explaining program



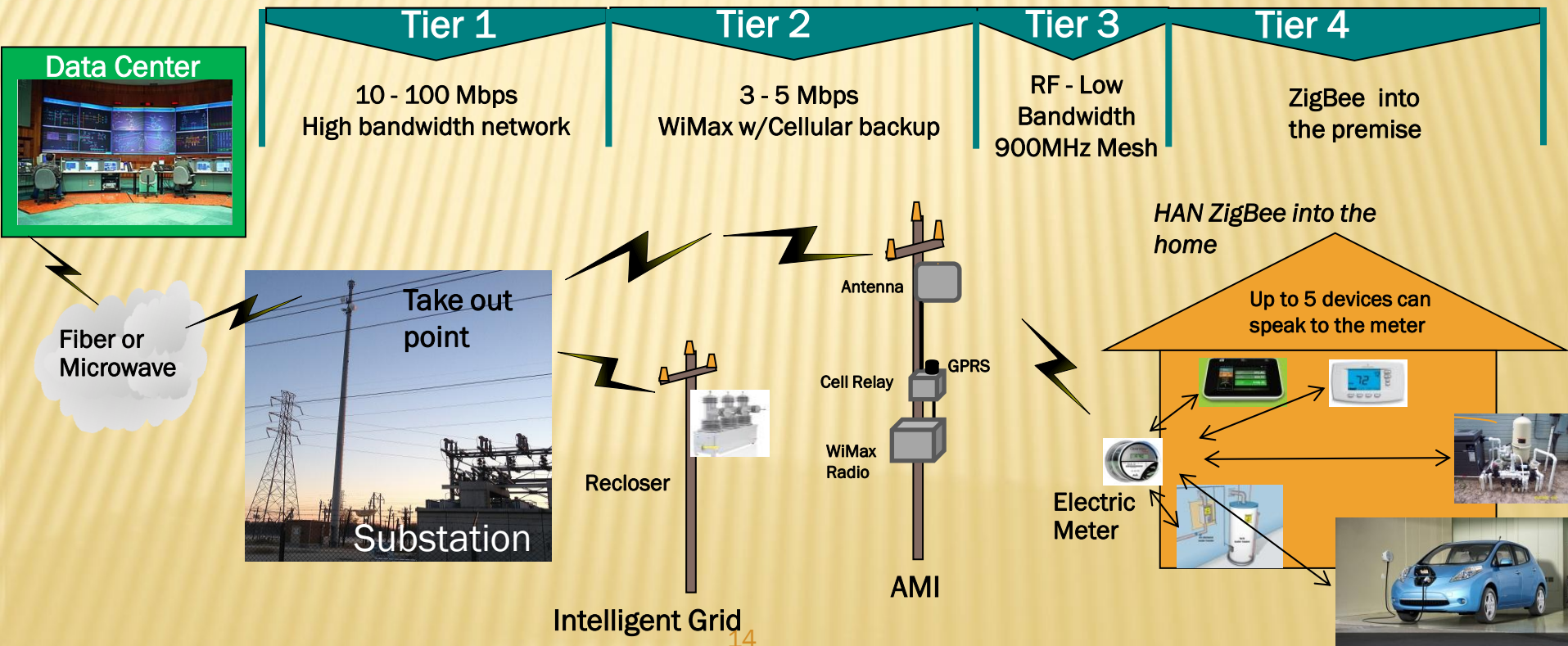


# SMART GRID COMMUNICATION NETWORK

The communications network can be segregated into four distinct segments

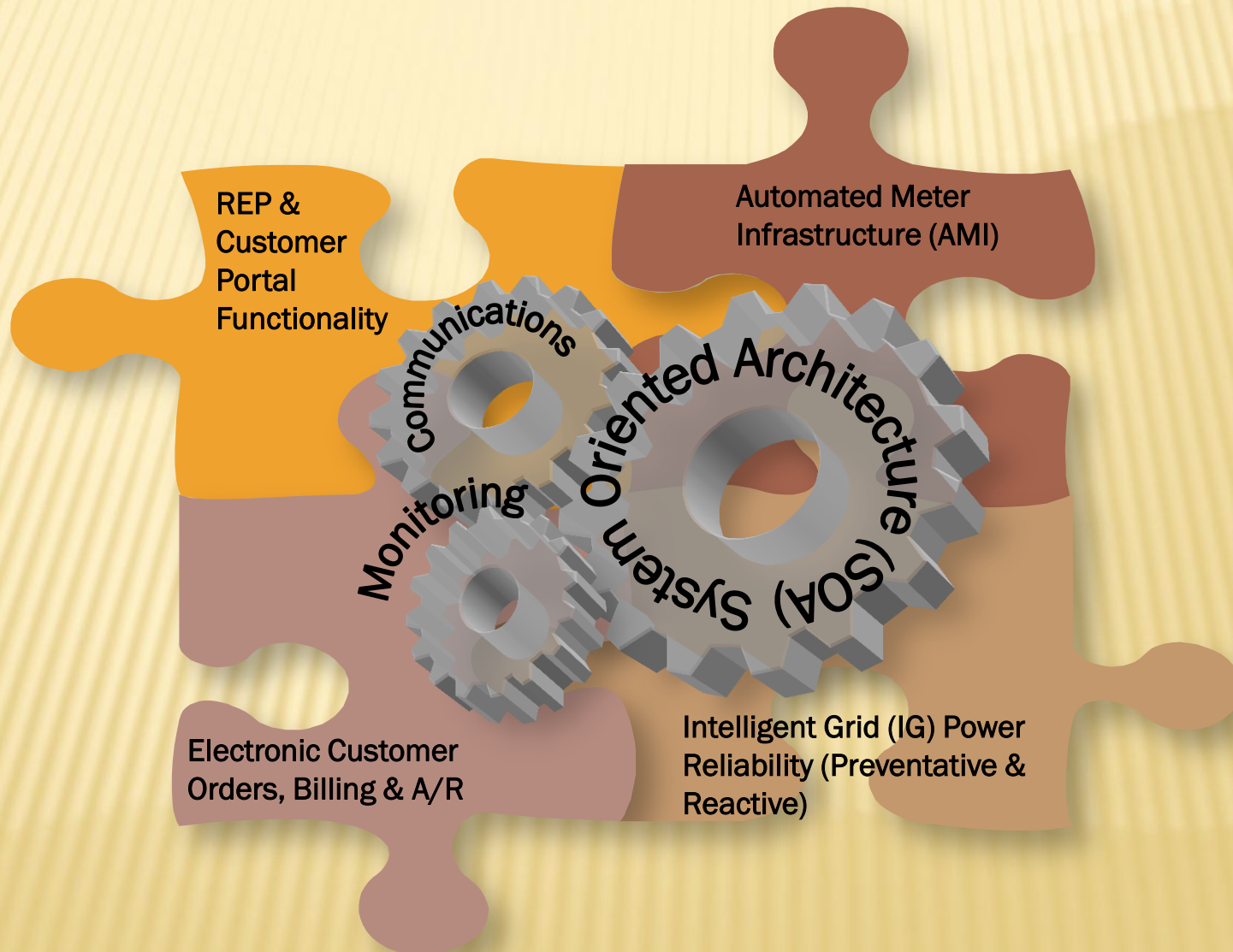
- Tier 1 - High Speed: Data Center to the substations (Take Out Points)
- Tier 2 - Utility Grade Speed: Substations to the remote data router
- Tier 3 - Radio Wireless: Remote data router to the meter (1 to 400 ratio)
- Tier 4 - Meter to HAN via ZigBee: wireless to Home Area Network (HAN) devices

## Two-Way Communication





# SYSTEMS AND ARCHITECTURE TO SUPPORT CNP'S DISTRIBUTION AUTOMATION STRATEGY





# CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

**July 2012**

## INFRASTRUCTURE DEPLOYMENT

**Take out Points – Installed 140**

**Cell Relays – 5,391**

**Meters Deployed – 2,232,278**

- Number of HAN devices provisioned – 9,576
- Meter Hardware Standardization – Version 2.0
- Meter Firmware Standardization – Version 3.0

## READ RATE PERFORMANCE

**Register and 15 minute Intervals**

- 3 times per day

**1st attempt (98.43% and improving)**

- Bulk within 4 hours
- P2P for 3 more hours

**Retry for 5 Days (99.9%)**

## PROGRAM STATISTICS

**Cycle Bills produced via AMS reads – 16,401,141**

**Total Service Orders Complete – 3,364,070 (97.0%)**

**Service Orders for 2012 – 1,935,883 (98.0%)**

- Reconnect – 22 mins (Firewall to meter)
- Turn On Orders ~12-16 mins (MDM to meter)

**July 2013**

## INFRASTRUCTURE DEPLOYMENT

**Take out Points – Installed 146**

**Cell Relays – 5,491**

**Meters Deployed – 2,268,395**

**Range Extenders: 1761**

- Number of HAN devices provisioned – 6,422
- Meter Hardware Standardization – Version 3.0
- Meter Firmware Standardization – Version 3.7

## READ RATE PERFORMANCE

**Register and 15 minute Intervals**

- 3 times per day

**1st attempt (99.61%)**

- Bulk within 4 hours
- Point to Point for 3 more hours

**Retry for 5 Days (99.9%)**

## PROGRAM STATISTICS

**Cycle Bills produced via AMS reads – 61,499,886**

**Total Service Orders Complete – 6,050,016 (98.0%)**

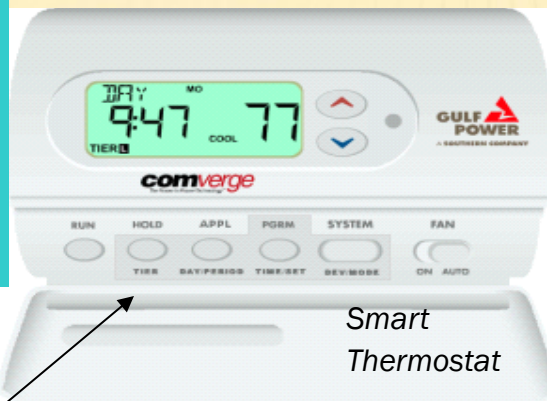
**Service Orders for 2013 – 2,632,639 (99.0%)**

- Reconnect – 14 mins (Firewall to meter)
- Turn On Orders ~11-14 mins (MDM to meter)

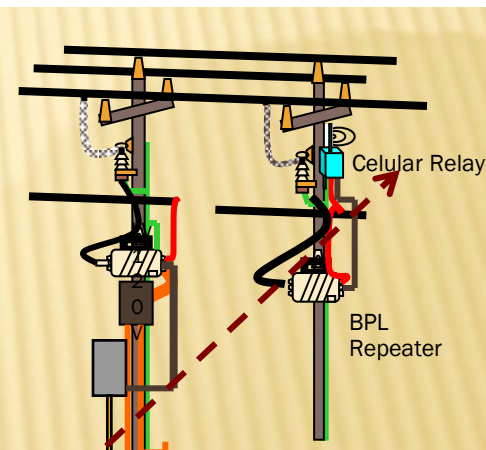


# CONNECTIVITY METER TO HOME AREA NETWORK (HAN) - ZIGBEE

Itron Openway meter is also a communication portal that enables demand side energy management and monitoring



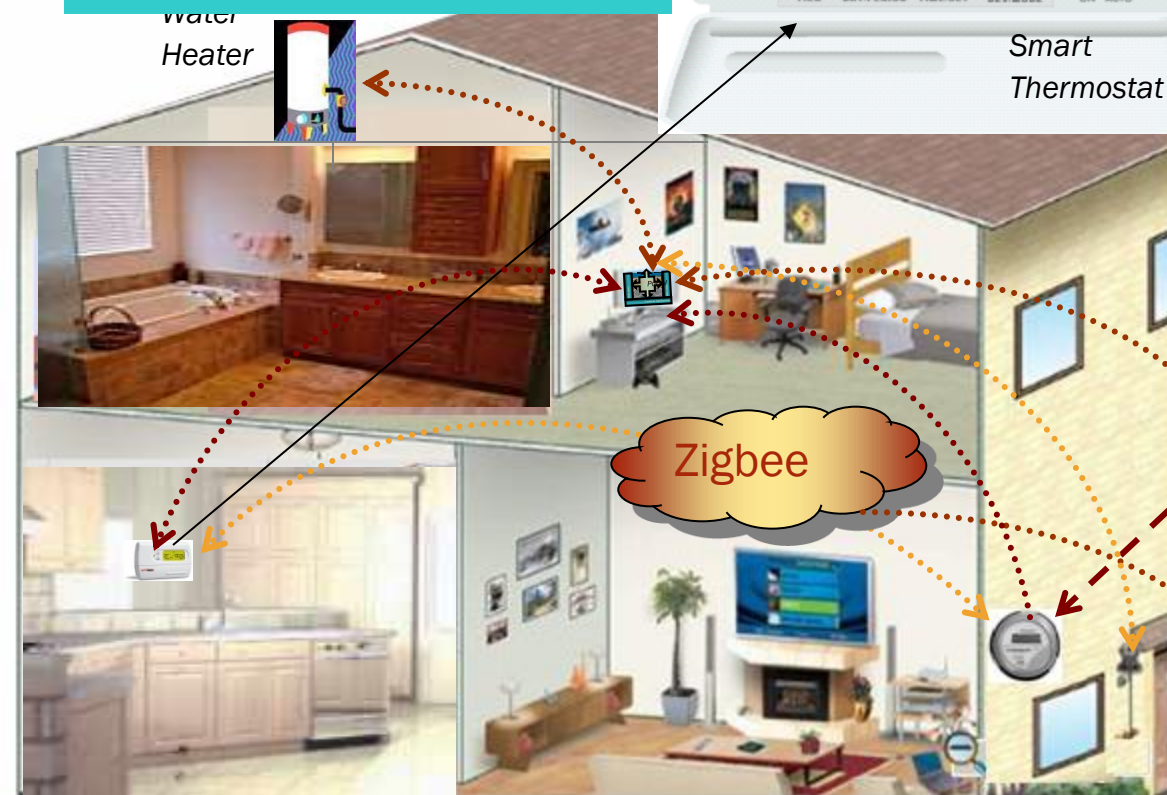
Smart  
Thermostat




Pool  
Pump



Compressor







The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Texas Smart Metering - Welcome - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The address bar displays "C:\bob -- Current Projects\Texas AMS\Prototype TCWP Demo 13 July 2009\index.html". The website header features the "SMART METER TEXAS" logo and a link to "Español". The main content area has a blue background with a large star and the text "A very **smart way** for Texans to **manage electricity!**". A "Current User Log In" box on the right contains fields for "User ID:" and "Password:", a "Log In" button, a "New User Register" button, and links for "Forgot User ID?" and "Forgot Password?". A green navigation bar includes links for "Home", "Residential", "Business", "3rd Party", "REPs", "TDSPs", "Regulators", and "Learn More". On the left, a sidebar with icons lists "See a Demo", "FAQs", "Security", "Contact Us", "About Us", and "Register Now". The main content area below the navigation bar is titled "Welcome to Texas Smart Metering UI Prototype Demonstration" and contains the following text:

**This is a prototype** of the Texas Smart Metering user experience.

**It simulates a user's interaction and system behavior for two scenarios!**

**You can...**

- Select buttons and links on scenario paths
- Enter data on forms
- Get a feel for how the system will behave

**Let's try the scenarios for a**

- [Residential User](#)
- and then a [REP Admin](#)

The status bar at the bottom indicates "Done, but with errors on page." and shows a "My Computer" icon.



# SMARTMETERTEXAS.COM (SMT) COMMON PORTAL TO AMI FOR TEXAS





# ADVANCED METERING MARKET PORTAL SMARTMETERTEXAS.COM



Meter Interval Usage

HAN Messages

Meter Attributes

Customer Premise

Meter Provisioning



Detailed Usage

Demand Response

Settlement

Customer Messaging



## 2. Intelligent Grid (IG)

- Intelligent Grid is comprised of
  1. System sensors & monitors,
  2. Field communications
  3. Data-trending software to provide real-time insight the distribution system
  4. Provide greater safety and reliability
  5. Provide proactive customer notification of planned and unplanned outages
  6. Improve customer satisfaction

Cost: Initial implementation 15% of CNP territory with IG by 2014



# INTELLIGENT GRID

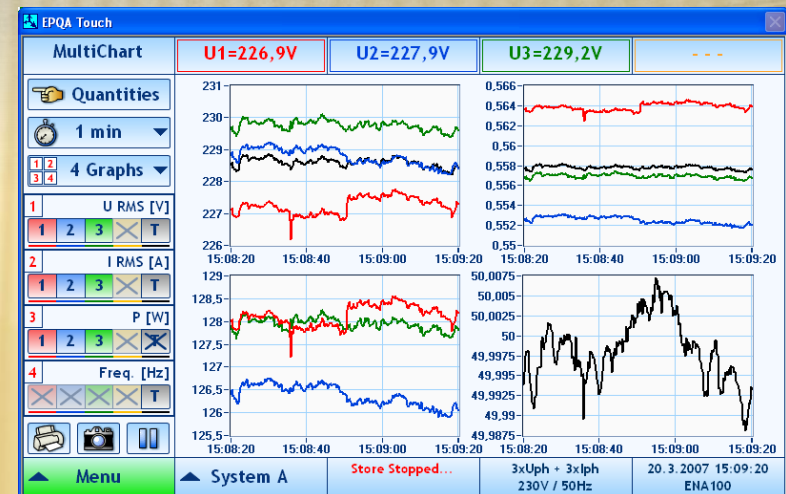
## What Should We Do?

- Goal 1 – Detect fault
- Goal 2 – Isolate the faulted section
- Goal 3 – Locate the cause
- Goal 4 – Characterize fault type
- Goal 5 – Monitor Assets

## How do we do it?

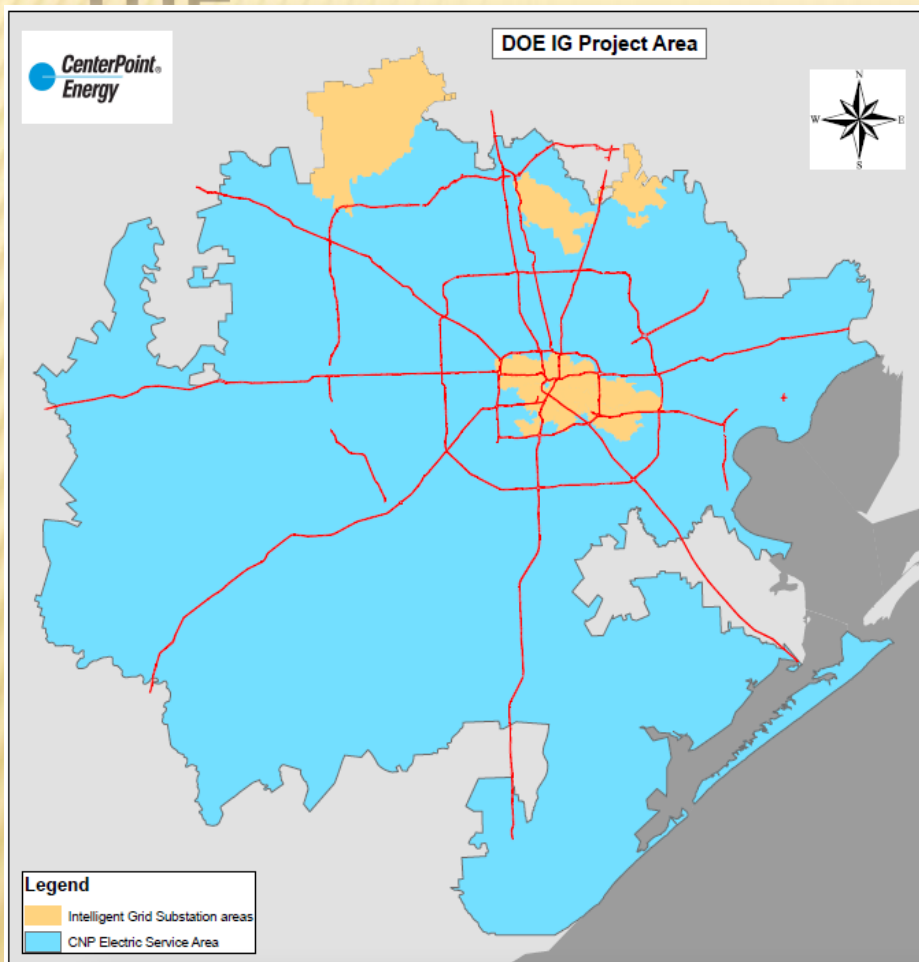
### with TECHNOLOGY

- Accurate sensing
- High Resolution Event Recording
- Automated Switching Devices
- Remote Control Restoration
- Automated Fault location
- Fault characterization
- IG Self Diagnostics





# 2010-2014 DEPLOYMENT OF THE



- Infrastructure Deployment – YE 2013
  - \* ≈ 31 Substation Upgrades
  - \* ≈ 180 Distribution Circuits
  - \* ≈ 600 Intelligent Grid Switching Devices
  - \* Multiple Communications Paths
  - \* ≈ 420K Customers
  - \* 75% Complete YE 2012
- Advanced Distribution Management System – Fall 2014
  - \* Replace Legacy OMS, DMS & DSCADA
  - \* Integration to Upgraded Mobile Work Force Management & Legacy Systems

While this phase covers about 15 percent of CenterPoint Energy's service area, some of the improvements will benefit consumers in the entire system



# SYSTEM DESIGN



Combined with back office computer systems, IG technology, when fully deployed, will automatically identify the location of power outages, isolate faulted sections of the grid and re-route power from other sources, essentially “healing” the system.





- ✓ During 2012, field switching executed remotely via automation was successfully utilized on 320 outage events impacting 162 circuits
- ✓ There are 478,868 customers served by these 162 circuits
- ✓ Without the use of automation, these 162 circuits would have experienced 123,645,636 customer outage minutes
- ✓ The use of automation avoided 27,111,267 customer outage minutes resulting in an average reliability improvement of 21.9%



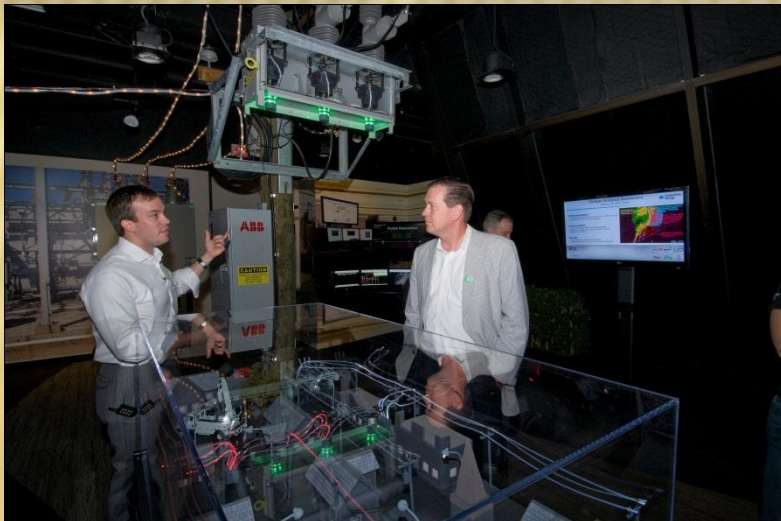
## CenterPoint Energy's Goal

Enable the Texas electricity market to extract the full value and capabilities of the Smart Grid by:

1. Supporting individual management of electricity consumption and
2. Developing and fostering adoption of market-driven programs and collaborative procedures



# DEMONSTRATION CENTER



- \* Created the Energy InSight Center to create a hands-on experience
  - Create common awareness
  - Educate and understand
  - Collaborate to establish the vision
- \* Visited by
  - US congressmen,
  - US Senator Murkowski
  - FERC Chairman
  - Dept of Commerce,
  - TX PUC Commissioners/staff
  - 100 US and foreign utilities
  - Over 600 tours in total



# **ANALYTICS**

***Turning Data Into Intelligence Into Actionable Items***



***ANALYZING MASSIVE AMOUNTS OF DATA***

***DELIVERING INFORMATION YOU CAN “TRUST”***

***ENABLING EFFICIENT DATA DRIVEN DECISION MAKING***

***KEEPING ONLY WHAT YOU NEED***



# Current Analytics Initiatives

- Diversion Detection and Revenue Protection
- Transformer Load Analysis & Proactive Maintenance
- Financial Month End Revenue Estimation Accuracy
- Outage Analysis and Correlations
- Real-time situational awareness for AMI  
Communication

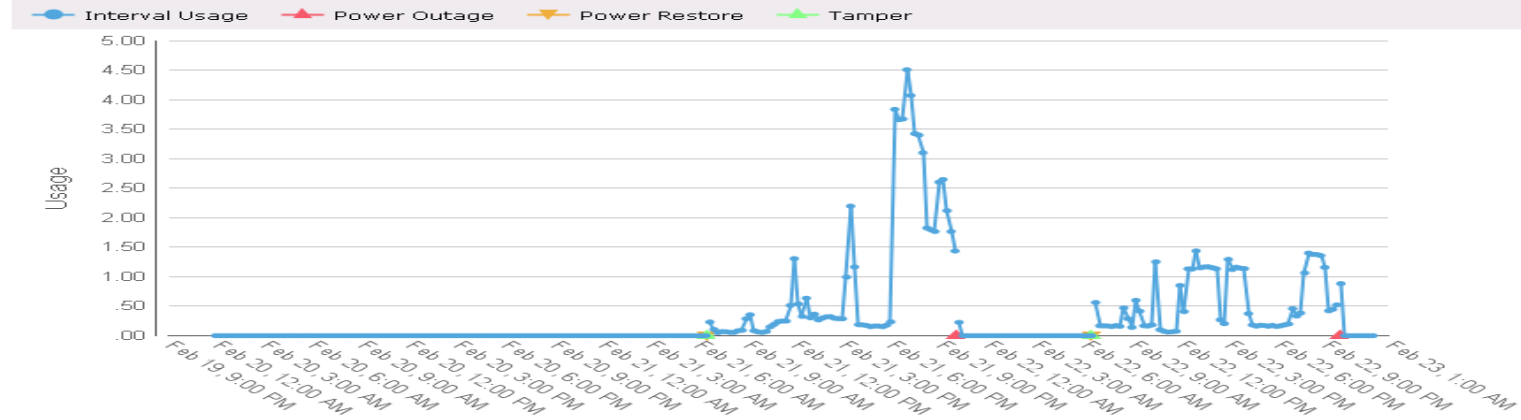


# Diversion Detection

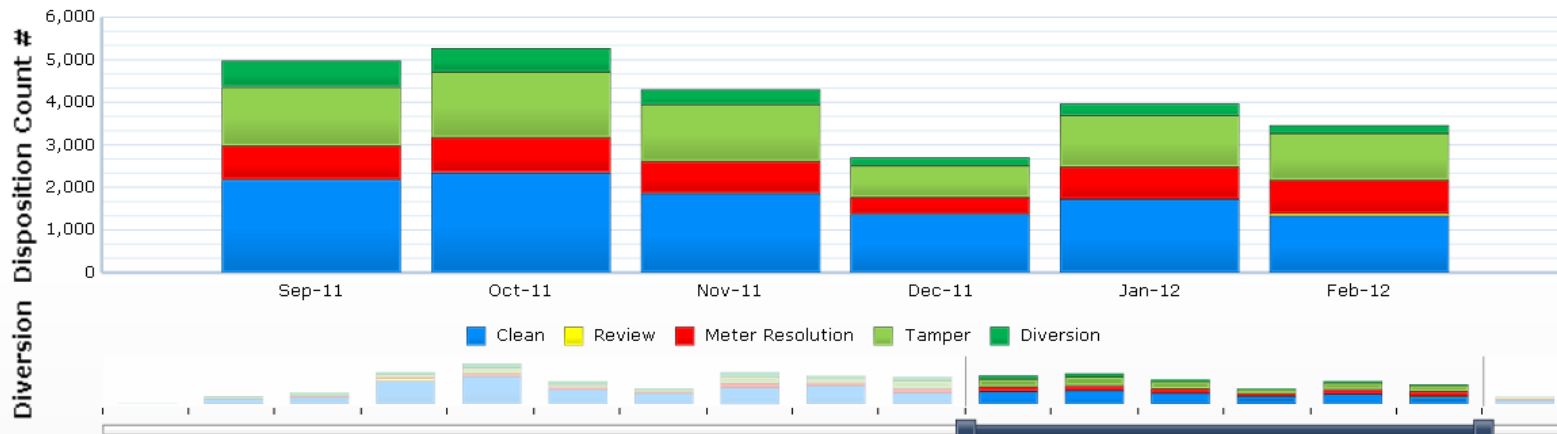
## Device Events and Usage for an SDP

02/20/2011 12:00 AM - 02/23/2011 12:00 AM

SDP ID: 1008901018191494705100

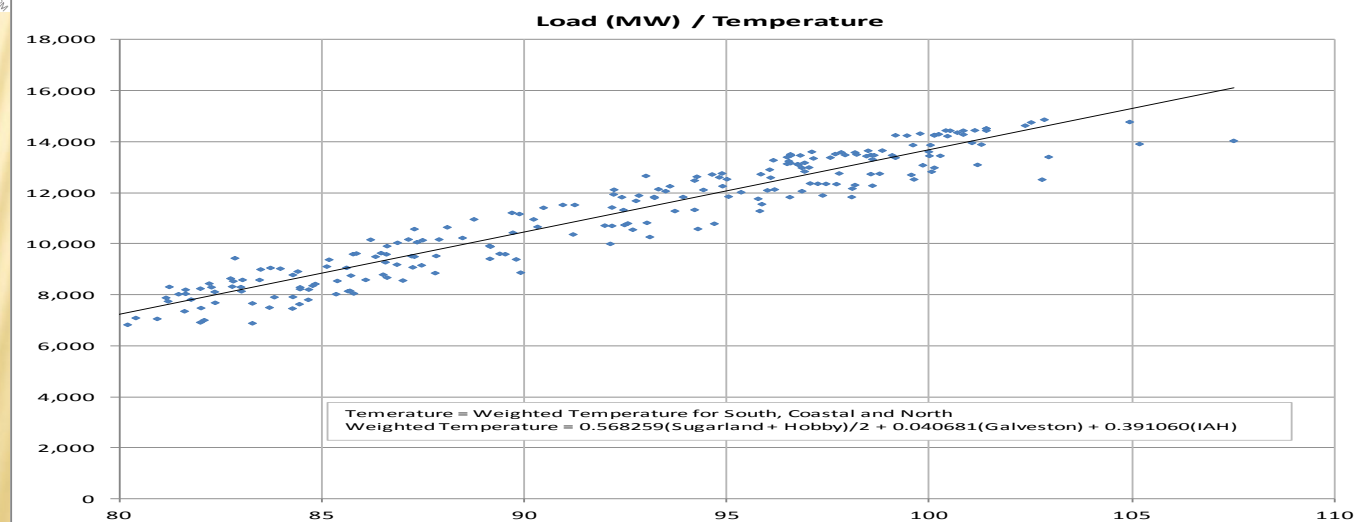
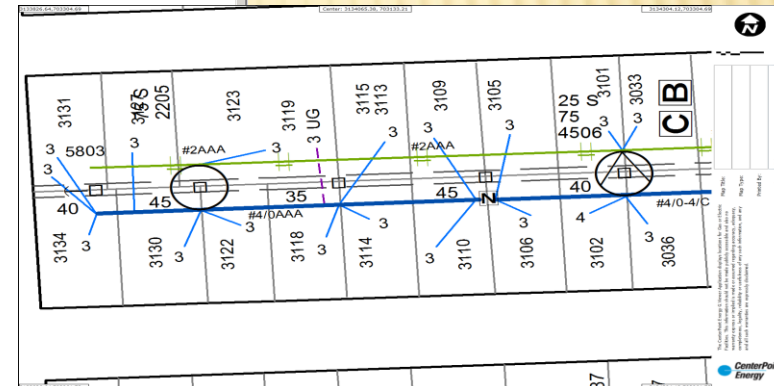
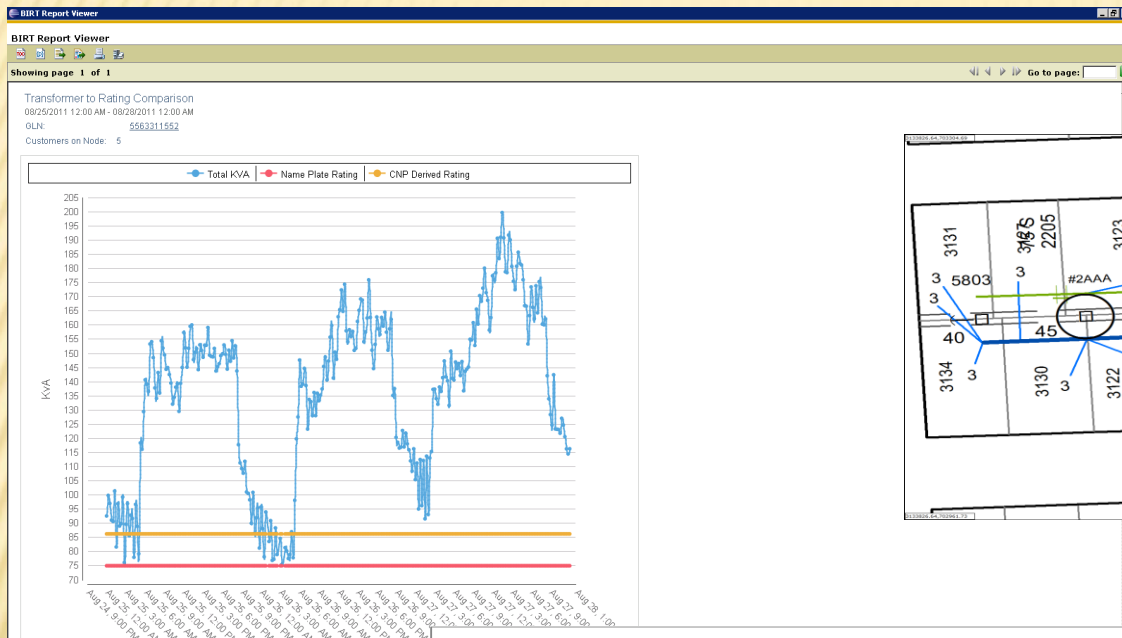


## Diversion Disposition by Month



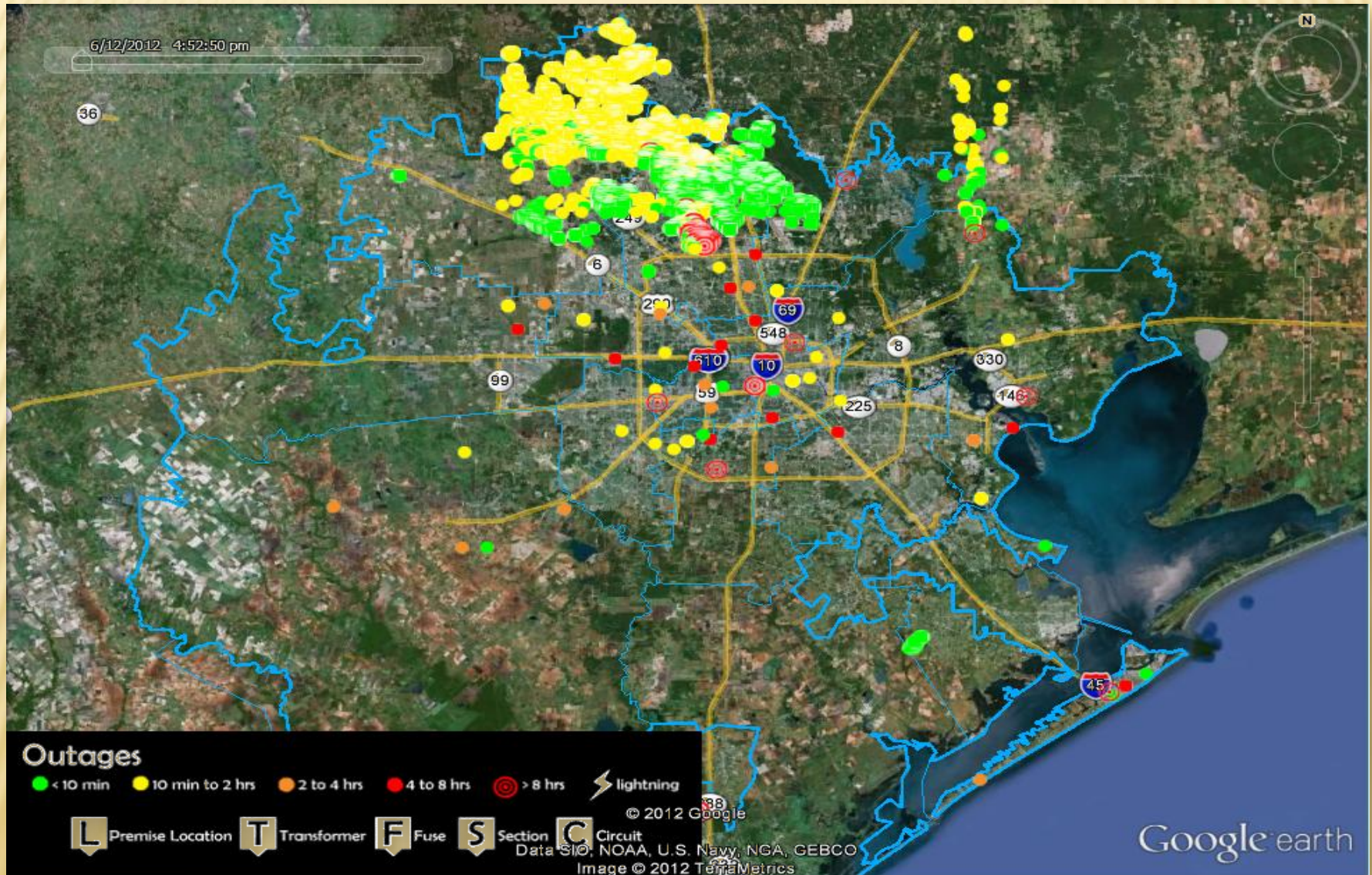


# Transformer Load Management and Proactive Maintenance





# METER OUTAGE EVENTS WITH NO MATCHING RESTORATION & LENGTH OF OUTAGE





- Distribution Transformer Metering
- Automated Streetlight Monitoring and Control
- Load Shed at the Meter
- Automated Phasing Determination
- Multiple other Analytics projects



Thank you  
for allowing me to share the  
Texas and CenterPoint advanced  
metering Smart Grid story

## QUESTIONS?

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